MONTEZUMA COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Montezuma County Extension
103 N. Chestnut
Cortez, CO 81321
(970) 565-3123

May 4, 2020

Dear Kwiyagatu Community Academy:

As the Montezuma County Extension Director, I am highly supportive of the Kwiyagatu Community Academy. The Kwiyagatu Community Academy, a proposed Ute Mountain Ute language and culture charter school in Towaoc, Colorado, will be an important and critical new addition to the educational services in the Montezuma County region of Colorado, when it opens in Fall 2021. Montezuma County Extension is excited to be working together with the Executive Committee of the Academy while the build the support and partnerships needed to have a great school.

Montezuma County Extension believes that we can aid in the development of the school by providing during the two separate time periods:

(1) Summer 2020-Fall 2021 during start-up phase
(2) Fall 2021-on-going during school operations

Montezuma County Extension can provide a 4-H STEM AmeriCorps member to deliver programming at the Academy. This Direct Service volunteer member can provide hands-on educational activities for youth audiences during the summer of 2020-Fall 2021 start-up phase. In addition, we are looking to obtain an AmeriCorps Vista member to assist with capacity building during the fall 2021-on-going during school operations phase. This member would be critical in advancing the long-term sustainability of the Kwiyagatu Community Academy.

Montezuma County Extension would also be able to provide resources, educational trainings, consultation and possible funding sources to contribute to the Academy. We can provide knowledge and experience in Horticulture, Family and Consumer Science education and sustainable agriculture production practices. We have access to the national Land-grant University system, which includes

Tribal Extension. This relationship can only be enhanced through our strong commitment to the Ute Mountain Ute community.

Understanding the Kwiyagatu Community Academy values of Character and Wellness and Community Connections we feel that our support is critical and essential part of making this an excellent school.

Sincerely,

Gregory H. Felsen

Colorado State University – Extension
Montezuma County – Director
Gregory.felsen@colostate.edu
970.769.2339